



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Coastal Services Center
2234 South Hobson Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29405-2413

Mr. Tom Hatfield
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 5664
PO Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

JUL 22 2013

Re: Freedom of Information Request Act No. 2013-001052

Dear Mr. Hatfield,

This letter is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request number 2013-001052, requesting records pertaining to the Northeast Regional Planning Body and the Northeast Regional Ocean Council.

We understand that you are requesting the following documents: all electronic records generated or received from November 1, 2012 until present and which can be considered to be associated with, or relate to:

- 1.) The state considering and/or being advised as to whether the Northeast Regional Planning Body (NE-RPB) is a federal agency, entity, or endeavor;
- 2.) The NE-RPB being considered and/or defined to be a "convening body";
- 3.) The status of the NE-RPB under state law, regulation gubernatorial executive order or policy of any state agency;
- 4.) Policies, guidelines, and recommendations concerning the process by which NE-RPB decisions are made including, but not limited to, decisions of the executive secretariat;
- 5.) Sources of NE-RPB funding and/or support (including donated goods and/or services);
- 6.) Conditions attached to funding the NE-RPB receives;
- 7.) NE-RPB information disclosure policies and/or any records with respect to how to respond to information disclosure requests;
- 8.) The activities and/or communications involving the NE-RPB executive secretariat;
- 9.) Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC) funding and/or support (including donated goods and services);
- 10.) Policies, guidelines, and recommendations concerning the process by which NROC decisions are made;
- 11.) Any conditions attached to NROC funding;
- 12.) Policies and procedures regarding personal identifying information (PII) that may be collected and/or used by NROC, and any records associated with that PII and any state/federal privacy laws;
- 13.) Any association between NROC and Seaplan;
- 14.) NROC hosting, maintenance, use and/or access to the NE-RPB webpage;



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- 15.) Ownership of the NROC internet domain and all records related to the proxy being used for purposes of ICANN reporting and/or registration;
- 16.) NROC meetings that involve regional ocean planning, inclusive of those records that discuss those planning activities in relation to NE-RPB activity;
- 17.) Amounts and rates associated with NROC expenditures on administration, staff, overhead, business expenses, and contributions;
- 18.) Policies, guidelines, and recommendations, recorded discussions concerning NROC staff or personnel engaging in lobbying activities at the federal, state, and/or local level;
- 19.) The Massachusetts Ocean Partnership and/or Seaplan, including any conflict of interest statements that include reference to those entities;
- 20.) Public private partnerships and/or requirements for public accountability, transparency, and/or information disclosure policies involving non-governmental entities;
- 21.) Private and/or public funds being transferred to Massachusetts Ocean Partnership, Seaplan, and/or NROC;
- 22.) Third Sector New England funding to the state, Massachusetts Ocean Partnership, Seaplan, and/or NROC;
- 23.) The policies and procedures associated with any PII that may be collected and/or used by Seaplan, and any records associated with that PII and any state and federal/state privacy laws;
- 24.) Complaints, disputes, legal actions, and/or other similar records associated with Seaplan and any person associated with Seaplan;
- 25.) Any limitations of liability, assignments, licenses, and/or waivers that involve Seaplan and/or Seaplan produced, provided or received data, information, and services;
- 26.) Agreements/contracts/memoranda of understanding between any the NE-RPB, NOAA, and NROC "partners", collaborators, and contractors, including, but not limited to Seaplan;
- 27.) Decisions, notices and communications related to NROC and/or Seaplan maps or the Northeast Data Portal at the public NE-RPB engagement meetings scheduled for May and June 2013;
- 28.) NROC and/or the NE-RPB referencing offshore wind power generation issues of maintenance, security, safety, and lifespan of generation structures;
- 29.) Any communications and/or requests referencing the U.S. Congressional Committee on Natural Resources and ocean planning in the Northeast;
- 30.) Communications to/from/regarding the Council on Environmental Quality, Grover Fugate, Nick Napoli, John Weber, Stephanie Moura, Laura Cantral, Deerin Babb-Brott, the National Ocean Council, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Consensus Building Institute, and/or members of the state or federal legislatures.

There are search and review costs for any documents prior to duplication. Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations 15 CFR Part 4.11(e), we are providing you with a fee estimate. The fee estimate is determined in accordance with the uniform fee schedule established in 15 CFR Part 4.11(c)(1) for requestors that fall in the "Commercial Use Requesters" category.

We estimate that the cost to search, review and duplicate responsive records will be approximately \$3,519.00. The estimate is based on 65 hours of search and review time at the salary rate of five employees conducting the search and review, plus 16 percent of each employee's salary rate. We will make electronic copies (.pdf) of all responsive documents so there will be no photocopy paper charge.



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Summary of Fee Estimate Determination

Employee	Salary	Hours	Salary Rate	16 Percent	Total
1	33.65	20	673	\$107.68	\$780.68
2	52.11	40	2084.40	\$333.50	\$2,417.90
3	38.07	1	38.07	\$6.09	\$44.16
4	65.76	3	197.28	\$31.56	\$228.84
5	40.87	1	40.87	\$6.54	\$47.41
Grand Total					\$3,519.00

Please make your check or money order payable to the "Treasury of the United States," and send your payment and your signed copy of this letter to the NOAA Public Reference Facility (SOU 57650), 1305 East West Highway (SSMC4), Room 7437, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910. In compliance with the FOIA regulations, the 20 business day time frame for completing your FOIA request stops until payment is received. Once your payment and authorization are received, your requested documents will be forwarded to you. If payment or other communication is not received within 30 calendar days from the date of this fee notification letter, your FOIA request will be considered closed.

Please be aware that not all responsive documents are necessarily releasable under the FOIA. If you have any questions about your request or the Department's FOIA regulations or procedures, please contact me at tyann.lee@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

TyAnn Lee

TyAnn Lee
CSC FOIA Action Officer



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